Engineering Sector has been the constant endeavour of the Government. Measures being provided to boost exports, including that of cars, consist of various provisions under the Export-Import Policy including Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licence, Duty Drawback Scheme, Exemption under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act, Assistance from Market Development Fund etc.

(d) The details of export of cars by five major exporters during the period April-October, 1999 are given below:

S.No.	Name of the exporter	Number of Units exported during April-October, 1999
1.	Maruti Udyog Ltd. Daewoo	9,360
2.	Motors (India) Ltd. Mercedes	350
3.	Benz India Ltd. Ind Auto Ltd.	292
4.	Telco	147
5.		60

SOURCE: Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM)

Amendments of Patents Act

1845. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:' Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Patents (Amendment) Bill will be brought forward in the Winter Session;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the various interest groups have been consulted and their view points incorporated in the amending Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) In accordance with the obligations contained in the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), India is

required to amend the Patents Act, 1970 by 31 December, 1999, in respect of scope of patentable inventions, providing for exclusions from patentability, providing a uniform term of patent protection of 20 years, alignment of compulsory licensing provisions, etc.

Government has maintained a close interface with individuals organisations and interest groups concerned and has also organised a series of Interactive Sessions on 'Approaches to the Indian Patent Law' in different cities of country between 28 June, 1999 to 9 August, 1999.

Publication of Educational Books by US based Company

1846. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal of US based company has been cleared for setting up 100 per cent owned publishing firm for educational books in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Indian companies were unable to produce good educational books; and

(d) how a foreign firm can produce appropriate educational material for our country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In accordance with the existing policy, a proposal of US based company for setting up a wholly owned subsidiary to undertake the business of publishing and distributing educational and reference books and educational materials, subject to the condition that the company would not undertake any activity prohibited under the Print-media Policy of 1955, has been cleared on the basis of recommendations of the Administrative Ministry i.e. Department of Secondary and Higher Education.

Setting up of Cement Industry

1847. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some cement industry in the country during Ninth Plan;